

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the reasons that follow.

Claims 1, 15, and 19 are currently being amended. This amendment adds, changes, and deletes claims and claim text in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, each with an appropriate defined status identifier. Claims 1-22 are pending in this application.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-12, and 14-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being anticipated by Kemp, et al., US 2003/0200427 (hereafter “Kemp”) in view of Nguyen et al., US 6,825,941 (hereafter “Nguyen”).

In response, without agreeing or acquiescing to the rejection, Applicant amends claims 1, 15, and 19 as in the Listing of Claims. The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of the claims, as amended. Applicant relies on the definition of obviousness set forth in 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

The claims as amended contain the recitation of features that are not present, taught, or suggested in the devices of Kemp and Nguyen. Applicant respectfully submits that the above amended claims are allowable for at least the following reasons.

The amended claim 1 contains features not present in the features as described in Examiner's point (on Page 3-4), as follows.

While Kemp and Nguyen in combination might suggest some aspects of the present invention, two aspects are not taught or suggested by Kemp and Nguyen: (1) difference in GUI, and (2) the location and organization of the heap.

(1) Difference in GUI.

The GUI being referred to (Kemp; fig 2-3 and 7-8; paragraph 13) by the Examiner is different from the GUI described in the present invention. GUI of the present invention refers to the post-installer wizard that presents a selection of available plug-ins for the driver. Available plug-in modules are presented in the post-installer GUI.

On the other hand, Fig 2, 3, 7, and 8 of Kemp are not related to the GUI being described in the present invention. Paragraph 13 of Kemp describes discovering plug-ins by searching the system registry and does not mention anything about showing available plug-ins discovered. The user interface being mentioned in this paragraph of Kemp refers to the actual GUI from the plug-in itself; whereas the present invention of this application refers to the wizard from post-installer.

(2) The location and organization of the heap.

Nguyen (Column 14, line 65 --- Column 21, line 60) does not specify that the heap is a private devmode area. Heap in Nguyen consistently refers to the actual computer memory (private devmode area is in the registry).

Nguyen (Column 38, lines 4--62) refers to actual computer memory whereas the present invention of this application describes the heap area within the private devmode area, which is clearly stated and described in FIG. 5, paragraphs [0044] -- [0047], and elsewhere. This heap is further and more narrowly described as the private devmode area following the public devmode area in Claim 7 and fixed size of the private devmode area in Claim 8.

While both differences ((1) difference in GUI, and (2) the location and organization of the heap) are implicit in the language of the claims without the requested amendments, the requested amendments to the Claims 1, 15, and 19 clarify and underline these aspects.

Claim 13 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Kemp in view of Nguyen and Nakao, US 2002/0035941 (hereafter "Nakao"). In response, without agreeing or acquiescing to the rejection, Applicant amends claims as shown in the Listing of Claims. Applicant respectfully submits that the above amended claims are allowable for at least the following reasons.

The claims as amended contain the recitation of features that are not present, taught, or suggested in the devices of Kemp, Nguyen, and Nakao because the amended claims are dependent claims dependent upon the amended independent claims 1, 15, and 19.

The dependent claim 13 depends from the independent claim 1 and is patentable for at least the same reasons, even in view of the Examiner's points regarding claim 13 on Pages 11-12. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 13 is not anticipated by Kemp, Nguyen, and Nakao and is therefore allowable. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103 be withdrawn and claim 13 be allowed.

The dependent claims depend from one of the independent claims 1, 15, and 19, and are patentable for at least the same reasons, even in view of the Examiner's points regarding Claims 1-12, and 14-22 on Pages 3-11 and Claim 13 on Pages 11-12. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the dependent claims are not anticipated by Kemp,

Nguyen, and Nakao, and are therefore allowable. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103 be withdrawn and claims 1-22 be allowed.

Conclusion

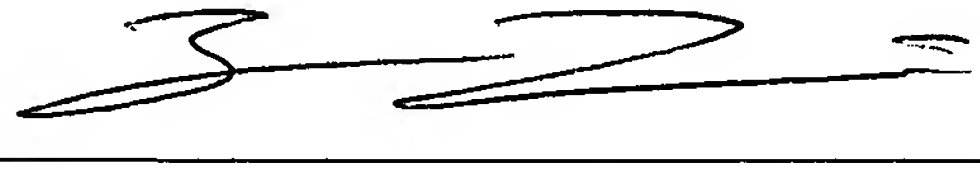
After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 1-22 are now pending in this application. Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: Aug. 1, 2008

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